

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 95-538-C - ORDER NO. 95-951 ✓  
APRIL 20, 1995

IN RE: Request of Conquest Operator Services ) ORDER APPROVING  
Corp. for Revisions to its SC Tariff No. ) STIPULATION AND  
1 Introducing Prepaid Calling Service ) TARIFF AND  
(Ref: TN95-44). ) REQUIRING BOND

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Conquest Operator Services Corporation (Conquest) to revise its PSC No. 1 Tariff introducing several new service offerings: IntraLATA Operator Service, USA WATS Service, Conquest WATS Plus, Conquest Special Access WATS, American 1 WATS, and Conquest Prepaid Card. Additionally, under the terms of the proposed tariff modification, interLATA operator service per minute rates are being reduced and Conquest South Carolina WATS Plus Service is being withdrawn.

At the request of the Commission's Executive Director, Conquest was directed to publish at its own expense a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the affected areas one time and to provide the Executive Director with proof of publication. Conquest complied with the instruction of the Commission's Executive Director.

A Petition to Intervene was filed by Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (Southern Bell). Subsequently, however, a stipulation was reached between Conquest and Southern Bell which related the fact that, among other things, any grant of authority

should clearly be for interLATA services and such intraLATA services contemplated by PSC Order No. 93-462, dated June 3, 1993. Further, Conquest represents, in the Stipulation, that the services for which it seeks authority through this Application are not intended to be used to complete local calls. The Stipulation, as a whole, is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The Commission has examined this and other provisions of the Stipulation and finds them to be equitable and in the public interest and hereby approves such Stipulation.

The Commission has also examined the provisions of the tariff, finds them reasonable, equitable, and in the public interest, and finds that they should be approved.

The Commission notes with interest that one of the provisions to be approved is a prepaid debit card. The Commission, in the past, has expressed concern about security for the consumers of South Carolina with the use of such cards and has in the past required that a bond in the form of a Certificate of Deposit be filed with the Commission and in the Commission's name in the amount of \$5,000.00. The Commission sees no reason to deviate from this past practice and holds that prior to Conquest offering the prepaid calling card service, that the Company shall post with the Commission a \$5,000.00 Certificate of Deposit in the Commission's name to act as a bond for protection of the consumers of the State of South Carolina.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

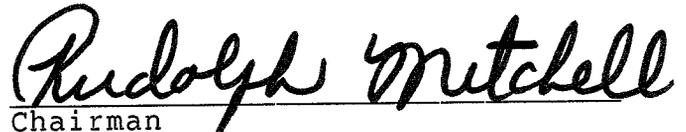
1. The Stipulation between Conquest Operator Services Corporation and Southern Bell is hereby approved.

2. The Tariff No. 95-44, submitted by Conquest, is hereby approved.

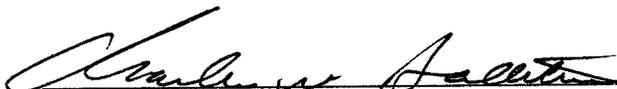
3. Prior to implementing the prepaid calling service, Conquest shall file with the Commission a \$5,000.00 Certificate of Deposit in the Commission's name as a bond to protect the consumers of the State of South Carolina.

4. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 95-538-C

IN RE:

REVISIONS TO CONQUEST OPERATOR  
SERVICES CORPORATION S.C.  
P.S.C. TARIFF NO. 1  
INTRODUCING PREPAID CALLING  
SERVICE

S. C. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
RECEIVED  
MAR 21 1995  
RECEIVED

STIPULATION

POSTED  
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The Applicant, Conquest Operator Services Corporation ("Conquest"), and Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company ("Southern Bell"), as Intervenor, by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby stipulate as follows:

- (1) Any grant of authority shall clearly be for interLATA services and such intraLATA services as contemplated by PSC Order No. 93-462, dated June 3, 1993.
- (2) Conquest represents that the services for which it seeks authority through this Application are not intended to be used to complete local calls. Conquest agrees that it is not seeking authority in this docket to authorize it to complete local calls. Further, Conquest agrees that it will not use either this Stipulation or the services specified in the tariffs filed in the above-captioned docket as grounds upon which to argue before this Commission that Conquest should be authorized to transport and complete local calls. Conquest represents that it will not market, advertise, encourage, or offer

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
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ACCEPTED

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Legal 308 3/23/95  
Util. 3/22/95  
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its services to be used as a method of transporting and completing local calls.

- (3) Conquest affirms that, at this time, it cannot prevent the completion of local calls on its network by customers using the services specified in the tariffs filed in the above-captioned docket. For this reason, Conquest cannot stipulate that its customers will not complete local calls using its services. Therefore, Conquest may bill for completion of local calls and collect the revenues therefore. When it becomes technically and practically possible for Conquest to implement blocking of local call completion using the services of Conquest, Conquest will implement such blocking until such time as it has obtained authority from the South Carolina Public Service Commission to transport and complete local calls.

Based upon the acceptance of this stipulation by the Commission, Southern Bell hereby withdraws its intervention in this docket.

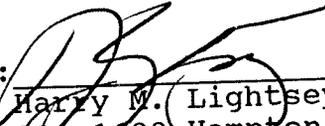
AGREED AND STIPULATED TO:

By:   
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Attorney for Conquest

Columbia, South Carolina  
March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1995

AGREED AND STIPULATED TO:

By:   
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803-748-8700

Attorney for Southern Bell  
Telephone & Telegraph Co.